

I THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

patent application of: CARTER

Serial No.: 09/909,843 Filed: 23 July 2001

For: STACKABLE VAPOR-EQUILIBRATION TRAY FOR CELL CULTURE AND PROTEIN CRYSTAL

GROWTH

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231 SIR:

Examiner: Song Art Unit: 1765

Docket #: P07087US00#PAS

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Attached is:

a response after Final Rejection dated

X a response to the Office Action dated November 4, 2002

a Preliminary Amendment

X a Petition for an extension of time

X Other: Attachment A

Fees: For claims if required and/or other fees as shown below:

1 ees. 1 of claims in required and/or other rees as shown below.					
	NOW	Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	<u>\$</u>
TOTAL CLAIMS				X \$ 18 =	
INDEP. CLAIMS				X \$ 84 =	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CLAIMS FEES =					
Reduction by ½ for small entity status of applicant					
				SUBTOTAL =	
X Fee for extension of time (per attached Petition)					465.00
Other fee for					
			TOTAL O	FALL FEES =	\$465.00

- X A check in the amount of \$ 465.00 is enclosed. If no check or an insufficient check is enclosed and a fee is due in connection herewith, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or additional fee due in connection herewith to Deposit Account No. 12-0555.
- In the event that a petition for extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and that a separate petition is not submitted herewith, applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time of as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee is authorized above.

Date: 5 May 2003

By. B. Aaron Schulman Registration No.: 31,877

Respectfully submitted,

LARSON & TAYLOR, PLC • 1199 North Fairfax St. • Suite 900 • Alexandria, VA 22314



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Matthew J. Song

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<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated November 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims in accordance with the marked-up version provided herewith as **Attachment A**.

REMARKS

By this amendment, minor changes have been made to the claims without affecting their scope so as to make it clear that the subject matter of the present invention has not been disclosed or suggested in the prior art cited by the Examiner, and indeed the central reference cited by the Examiner is the antithesis of the present invention since it does **not** provide any clearance between the lower end of the upper tray and the top of a sealable protein crystallization well which is the whole point of the present invention. Accordingly, for reasons as described in further detail below, the present claims are novel and unobvious over the prior art and are in condition for immediate allowance.